



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 1592

By Council Members Constantinides, Rosenthal, Brannan, Koslowitz, Kallos, Ayala, Levin, Lander, Chin, Menchaca, Cumbo, Van Bramer, Levine, Reynoso, Rivera, Rodriguez, Powers, Treyger, Adams, Cornegy, Perkins, Koo, Maisel, Cabrera and Rose

A Local Law to amend the New York city charter, in relation to the department of environmental protection and Rikers Island.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Section 1403 of the New York city charter is amended by adding a new subdivision b-2 to read as follows:

b-2. Rikers Island.

(1) The commissioner shall have charge and control over the location currently known as Rikers Island, including all areas, structures and property used or formerly used as a city prison for inmate detention and all facilities used by the department of corrections located on such island.

(2) The commissioner shall have the authority and discretion to plan and coordinate the actions of city agencies with respect to future uses of Rikers Island for renewable energy generation or for other environmental purposes, including but not limited to wastewater treatment, which shall include whether the use of existing structures would best contribute to such environmental purposes or sustainability.

(3) When the population of Rikers Island is less than 5,000 inmates, any structures on Rikers Island that are not suitable for renewable energy generation or wastewater treatment purposes may be reevaluated every three years for suitability for renewable energy generation options or for demolition.

(4) Any such structures still needed for use by the commissioner of correction for the retention of inmates shall be maintained for a period of five years from the date of the enactment of the law that added this

section during which time such commissioner of correction shall retain sole power and authority concerning the care, custody and control of such inmates or persons pursuant to section 623 of the charter.

(5) The commissioner shall have the authority to take such actions, including the promulgation of rules to ensure the development and coordination of infrastructure to support renewable energy generation, wastewater treatment and such other environmental purpose conducted at Rikers Island.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.

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